

to the Congress on whether to continue a specified pilot project beyond its statutory expiration date, which would require enactment of legislation. Section 4332 of title 38, as amended by section 202 of the Act, purports to require officials in the executive branch to submit recommendations for legislative action in certain circumstances. The executive branch shall implement these provisions in a manner consistent with the President's constitutional authority to supervise the unitary executive branch and to recommend for the consideration of the Congress such measures as the President judges necessary and expedient.

George W. Bush

The White House,
December 10, 2004.

NOTE: S. 2486, approved December 10, was assigned Public Law No. 108-454.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

December 4

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Philadelphia, PA, to attend the Army-Navy football game at Lincoln Financial Field. Before the game, he met with both teams in their locker rooms and participated in the opening coin toss. He watched the first half of the game from Army's side of the field and the second half from Navy's.

In the evening, the President returned to Washington, DC.

December 5

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Bush attended the Kennedy Center Honors ceremony at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

December 6

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

In the afternoon, in the Oval Office, the President met with President Abdoulaye Wade of Senegal. Later, on the State Floor, he and Mrs. Bush participated in the Children's Christmas Reception and Program.

Also in the afternoon, the President met with bipartisan Members of Congress to discuss Social Security.

The President announced his appointment of Gerald A. Reynolds and Ashley L. Taylor as members of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

The President announced his designation of Gerald A. Reynolds and Abigail Thernstrom as Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, respectively, of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, with the concurrence of a majority of the Commission.

The President announced his intention to appoint Kenneth Marcus as Staff Director of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, with the concurrence of a majority of the Commission.

December 7

In the morning, the President traveled to Miramar, CA. While en route aboard Air Force One, he had an intelligence briefing. Upon arrival, he met with Kathryn Ostapuk, whom he presented with the President's Volunteer Service Award.

Later in the morning, the President traveled to Camp Pendleton, CA, where he presented the Presidential Unit Citation to the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force SOUTH/Task Force K-BAR. Later, he had lunch with military personnel.

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC, arriving in the evening.

December 8

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing and met with the National Security Council.

During the day, the President participated in separate holiday receptions with members of the Presidential Protective Detail and staff members of the White House and the Executive Office of the President.

December 9

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he had telephone conversations with President Aleksander Kwasniewski of Poland and President Valdas Adamkus of Lithuania to discuss the situation in Ukraine.

In the afternoon, in an Oval Office ceremony, the President received diplomatic credentials from Ambassadors Federico Humbert de Arias of Panama, Francisco Tomas Duenas Leiva of Costa Rica, Jehangir Karamat of Pakistan, Mahamoud Adam Bechir of Chad, John Bruton of the European Commission, and Maris Riekstins of Latvia.

Later in the afternoon, in Room 476 of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building, the President met with rabbis and Jewish community leaders. Later, on the State Floor, he and Mrs. Bush participated in a holiday reception.

The White House announced that the President will travel to Europe in February 2005 for meetings with European leaders, beginning his consultations in Brussels, Belgium, on February 22, meeting with allied heads of state and Government at NATO. The President will also meet with the EU Presidency, the European Council, and the European Commission President.

The President announced his intention to nominate Jim Nicholson to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

December 10

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he participated in an interview with *People* magazine.

In the afternoon, the President dropped by a meeting of the National Security Council and participants of the U.S.-Russia Volunteer Initiative.

Later in the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush traveled to Fort Belvoir, VA. Later, they returned to Washington, DC.

The White House announced that the President will host Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi of Italy for a meeting and lunch on December 15.

The President announced his intention to nominate Samuel W. Bodman to be Secretary of Energy.

The President announced his intention to appoint the following individuals as members of the President's Committee on the National Medal of Science: Bruce N. Ames; Randolph W. Bromery; Winfred M. Phillips; and Jean'ne Marie Shreeve (Chairperson).

The President announced his intention to appoint the following individuals as members of the Helping to Enhance the Livelihood of People (HELP) Around the Globe Commission: Carol Craigle Adelman; Mary K. Bush; Glenn Estess; C. Boyden Gray (Chairman); Carla Hills; and Walter H. Kansteiner.

**Nominations
Submitted to the Senate**

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted December 7

James William Carr,
of Arkansas, to be a member of the National Security Education Board for a term of 4 years, vice Manuel Trinidad Pacheco, term expired.

George M. Dennison,
of Montana, to be a member of the National Security Education Board for a term of 4 years, vice Bruce Sundlun, term expired.

Andrew J. McKenna, Jr.,
of Illinois, to be a member of the National Security Education Board for a term of 4 years, vice Robert N. Shamansky, term expired.

Harry Robinson, Jr.,
of Texas, to be a member of the National Museum Services Board for a term expiring December 6, 2008 (reappointment).